Message Text

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MILAN HOLD TURIN

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: ESTC, IT, CU

SUBJECT: ITALIAN EXPORTS OF NICKEL PRODUCTS TO U.S.

REF: (77 ROME 12027 (NOTAL) (B) 77 STATE 218249 (NOTAL) (C) 76 STATE 230187

- 1. REGRET DELAY IN RESPONDING TO YOUR REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TO PASS TO FERDINANDO PALAZZO, MANAING DIRECTOR OF TEKSID ON STAINLESS STEEL EXPORTS TO U.S. AND CUBAN NICKEL.
- 2. ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER ITALIAN STEEL COMPANYEMBASSY ASKED DE-PARTMENT IN 1977 WHETHER FOREIGN ASSET CONTROL (FAC) RESTRICTIONS WHICH PROHIBIT IMPORT OF ITALIAN NICKEL-BEARING STEEL PRODUCTS INTO U.S. IN CONNECTION WITH U.S. BOYCOTT OF CUBAN NICKEL MIGHT BE REVIEWED, ALTERED OR LIGTED (REF (A) DEPARTMENT RESPONDED (REF B) THAT TREASURY DID NOT CONTEMPLATE ANY REVISION F FAC REGULATIONS THAT WOULD BEAR ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT GUIDANCE PROVIDED EARLIER REF C) STILL CURRENT.

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3. REF (C), REFERRING TO GOI PROPOSED CERTIFICATION AGREEMENT UNDER GOI WOULD CERTIFY NON-USE OF CUBAN NICKEL OXIDE BY ITALIAN PRODUCERS, STATED TEASURY HAD INDICATED SUCH CERTIFICATION WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO U.S. BECAUSE, AS SAME ITALIAN PRODUCERS USING CANADIAN NICKEL OXIDE, THE PHYSICAL PROPETTIES OF NICKEL OXIDES FROM THE TWO SURCES ARE INDISTIN-

GUISHABLE AFTER MANUFACTURE UNDER STANDARD TESTING PROCEDURES USED. REF (B) ADDED THAT AS CUABAN NICKEL OXIDE IS KNOWN TO BE AVAIALBLE IN ITALY, THE BEST INENTIONED INSPECTION/CERTIFICATION PROGRAM WOULD BE FUTILE.

4.IF PALAZZO DESIRES FURTHER RESPONSE IN REGARD TO POSSIBLE TEKSID CONTRACT TO BUILD STEEL MILL IN CUBA, WE SUGGEST YOU REPORT AS MUCH OF DETAILS AS POSSIBLE TO DEPARTMENT AND REQUEST GUIDANCE.HOLMES

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